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### PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

# TWO NEW SPECIES OF MORACEAE FROM SOUTH AMERICA.

### BY S. F. BLAKE.

The two new species of the mulberry family here described from the South American collections of H. M. Curran are both good-sized forest trees of some commercial importance. Both species were studied at the request of Professor S. J. Record, of the Yale School of Forestry, who is engaged in a study of the woods of this family. The species of *Brosimopsis* is of interest as representing a second species of a hitherto monotypic genus.

#### Brosimum columbianum Blake, sp. nov.

Tree 30 m. high 60 cm. in diameter; branchlets greenish white, glabrous, obtusely angled, very leafy; petioles stout, sulcate above, sparsely pubescent, 3 to 5 mm. long; leaf blades ovate or oblong-ovate, 4 to 9 cm. long, 2 to 3.3 cm. wide, shortly falcate-acuminate with obtuse apex, rounded or cuncate-rounded at base, entire, subcoriaceous, pale green, glabrous, narrowly marginate, the costa flattish or slightly impressed above, prominent beneath, the lateral veins 12 to 14 pairs, flattish or obscurely prominulous above, prominent beneath, the secondaries finely reticulate but flat on both sides or even somewhat impressed beneath; receptacles solitary in the axils, subglobose, 1.5 mm. thick in youth, 11 mm. thick when submature, at first sessile, the pedicel becoming 1.5 mm. long at submaturity; receptacle minutely puberulous and covered with peltate finely puberulous and ciliolate bracts; pistillate flower solitary, the papillose style and stigmatic branches together 5 mm. long, exserted from a very early period (when receptacle is 1.5 mm. thick); staminate flowers not seen.

Type in the U. S. National Herbarium, no. 1,068,154, collected in the vicinity of Estrella, Caño Papayal, Lands of Loba, Bolívar, Colombia, April or May, 1916, by H. M. Curran (no. 304). Duplicate in the herbarium of Yale University.

The native name of this timber tree is given by Mr. Curran as "guayamero." The species is nearest *Brosimum alicastrum* Swartz, not definitely known from South America, but is distinguished by its smaller leaves and solitary always sessile young receptacles. It is probable that further differences will be found when more complete specimens are collected.

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#### Brosimopsis diandra Blake, sp. nov.

Tree nearly 30 m. high, 0.5 m. thick; young branchlets purplish-brown, spreading-pilosulous, the older gray-barked, glabrous; buds subulate, sparsely sericeous-pubescent, about 5 mm. long; petioles narrowly channeled above, puberulous, 5 to 8 mm. long; stipules subulate, usually deciduous, about 5 mm. long; leaf blades oblong-elliptic or ovate-elliptic, 6 to 11 cm. long, 2 to 3.3 cm. wide, rather gradually and often falcately acuminate to an obtuse tip, at base broadly rounded or obscurely cordate, entire, subcoriaceous, brownish-green on both sides when dry, glabrous above, beneath obscurely strigillose along the costa and lateral veins and very sparsely so along the veinlets, feather-veined with 10 to 17 pairs of lateral veins, the costa impressed above, prominent beneath, the lateral veins flattish or slightly impressed above, prominulous beneath, diverging at nearly a right · angle and uniting near the margin to form a looped submarginal vein, the veinlets rather finely reticulate, flattish above, prominulous beneath; peduncles (of staminate heads) axillary, solitary, erect, puberulous, 4 mm. long; staminate receptacle (before anthesis) subglobose, 4 mm. thick, with a few minute bracts at base, not definitely calyculate, densely covered with flowers and interspersed peltate bracteoles; flowers all staminate, without rudiment of ovary; bracteoles peltate, 1 mm. long, the slender stipe spreading-puberulous, the lamina suborbicular, puberulous on both sides and ciliolate; perianth (immature) 1 mm. long, slightly immersed in the receptacle, its segments 4, oblong, somewhat puberulous, cucullate-imbricate in bud; stamens always 2, crect in bud, the glabrous thick-subulate filaments about equaling the subquadrate truncate cordate-based 2-celled anthers.

Type in the U. S. National Herbarium, no. 704,482, collected in the Rio Grongogy Basin, Bahia, Brazil, altitude 100–500 meters, October-November, 1915, by H. M. Curran (no. 25). Duplicate in the herbarium of Yale University.

The native name of this tree is given as "leiteira" by Mr. Curran. The species is of considerable interest, since it evidently represents a second species of the hitherto monotypic genus *Brosimopsis* described in 1895 by Spencer L. Moore<sup>1</sup> from Santa Cruz, Matto Grosso, Brazil. In the type of the genus, *B. lactescens* S. Moore, the male plant is only a low tree, and the flowers are tetrandrous.

1Trans. Linn. Soc. Bot. II. 4: 473. pl. 30, f. 6-12, pl. 31. 1895.